

- I really appreciate this survey. One of my biggest concerns is the number of people moving into houses to rent and destroying the neighborhoods with unruly children, loud voices and music, unkempt lawns in front and back, trash of all kinds in their yards, and disturbing the peace. Parents with three and four families are living in a two or three bedroom house and using drugs. When you call the community relation's offices, they do not respond.
- I don't mean to be so negative about so many areas but your descriptive words didn't fit some situations. Overall, I generally feel safe but I'm always looking over my shoulder. City services vary from area to area with some better and some worse. Problems include vacant buildings, poor roads, unmowed vacant lots, poor bus service, trash/litter on streets, poor lighting, and safety because I have been a victim of crime (e.g., theft) 8 to 10 times. Fire trucks respond quickly to my home but I hear about poor equipment and response in other areas of the City. In terms of police response, it appears that because they're short staffed they have to make decisions about what to respond to, which doesn't always coincide with my concerns or those of the public on a whole.
- We have dead trees in the neighborhood that were killed by lightning from a storm in 1997. When it rains, the street floods and water stands for two or three days.
- Our neighborhood (Indian Village) suffers from lack of adequate City services while the three casinos 1) always have police at the scene, 2) always have lights and water, and 3) always have new streets and lights. This City has to address the concerns of the residents in the neighborhoods. Without citizens, Detroit is not a City. The new Mayor and Council members have to do something. Talk is cheap.
- I am moving from Detroit this Thursday as soon as my lease would let me go. The Secretary of State's office on Woodward errored on my voter registration, therefore I could not vote. The construction is making it very difficult to navigate, as are the detour signs. My boyfriend has been assaulted coming to my apartment. When I called to report a gaping hole in my wall at the Beleast, the women at the Housing Department didn't know what was going on and their computers didn't seem to be helping much. I've received a few tickets for parking between two cars that didn't get tickets. I contested the tickets and never heard anything so that department is inept. There are no grocery stores to go to that don't serve stale food. There is nowhere safe to go. Getting on the bus and walking to school I am harassed. Bums even come into my classes. I think WSU should move, and if this environment persists I know it will. An inspector came to see my apartment. He came a day late and did not leave me information on the result of the inspection. Thanks for this opportunity to voice my displeasure.
- Overall, I feel the City is doing a good job and I'm proud to live in Detroit.
- School Board members are not doing the job. Each one of them should be going to two schools each day, seven days a week, and then meet on Friday afternoon and figure out what is wrong. The City sent one letter to say property taxes were going up \$6.00 in 2000 and \$28.00 in 2001. School Bonds and City Bonds should have only the property owner's voting on them because we pay for them. The process is like robbing Peter to pay Paul. Only homeowners and businesses should vote on property tax proposals. Senior citizens are paying much of the property taxes.

- We own our home. There are people that live in our neighborhood that are renting. They do not keep up their rented property, such as cutting the grass and keeping the junk out of sight until pickup day. Often the day after pickup, they put junk out and it stays out until the last Tuesday of the month. I think the City should get on the owners and make them keep up. If not, make the tenants move. I think it is disrespectful to the neighbors.
- It takes too long to get rid of boarded-up and dilapidated houses. Stolen and abandoned cars are prevalent on the streets. Cars race down Pembroke both day and night. There is no monitoring of the streets when students are on their way home from Beaubien or Pasteur Schools. There is no salt put on Pembroke during the winter. The traffic light is often out at Pembroke and Livernois. My street needs a reapplication of asphalt.
- I am a lifelong City resident. I have always chosen to work and support City businesses. On average, I am frustrated about the lack of improvement made in the City's neighborhoods. My area fortunately has survived well and is populated by a racially, culturally, and ethnically diverse population that cares for the area and watches out for each other. I am thrilled with the new promenade on the riverfront and the renewal of the Gratiot and Seven Mile shopping area. But the drive downtown on Gratiot is heartbreaking. We deserve better!
- I am really curious as to why after all these years we receive a survey, and if some good will come from it.
- Why should I volunteer, even if I could, when you have people in jail who could help with the cleanup of parks and vacant lots. The police get paid to do a job that many don't do. Narcotics and gang programs must be unknown in the neighborhood bounded by Van Dyke to Conner and from Gratiot to Warren, because all there is, are drug houses and gangs, and drugs being sold right on the street.
- Please keep up the good work for the City of Detroit.
- The Water Department dug up my lawn near the street last year and they have not been back since. I called the Water Department and their representatives provided five separate times that someone would be out to fix my lawn, but I am still waiting. Most City departments will not answer their phones, and if they do they put you on hold for over one-half hour, or most of the time they never get back to you. Palmer Park is cluttered with debris near bushes and trees, especially near the sidewalk.
- There are things on here, such as, a police officer for the neighborhood, recreation centers, programs and classes that I was not aware of. On my street there are no lights. There never have been any lights. When people come down our street, they stop and turn on their bright lights. There are too few traffic lights between Greenfield and Southfield (near Herman Gardens). There should be a signal on Joy Road and St. Marys.
- The trees need to be trimmed on a regular basis. The low branches provide a place for people to hide in the shadows. The streets need to be cleaned on a regular basis. I've been in this home for two years and I've seen the street cleaned twice. Once a year is not enough. We need concerned leaders at City Hall in charge of City services.
- Livability in the City is both good and bad. My major concerns with the City do not pertain to the areas identified in this survey. My concerns are the poor phone service to various departments and the very poor data retrieval process in the tax office on Woodward and Jefferson.

- I note the following City problems: 1) Public lavatory services are very, very bad. 2) There are no shelters at bus stops which is very bad. 3) Bus transportation is very bad. 4) There is a lack of a shopping mall in the City of Detroit. 5) There are potholes everywhere. 6) Odors and overall cleanliness are horrible. 7) There is price gouging, with gas, lights, water, and food.
- City taxes are too high for the working man or woman.
- The Income Tax Division provides very poor service to the residents of Detroit. Refund amounts are taken by the City from returns without sending proper notification to the taxpayer. It also has a habit of not addressing letters or not responding to inquiries. The Division's system or people cannot tell what years are outstanding, which is very bad.
- I would like to volunteer at some future time. Presently I am the sole caregiver for my 94-year old mother.
- We are in a forgotten area of the City. Drugs are rampant. There are a lot of abandoned houses. Trash is left out from one big pickup to the other. There are cars in all the vacant lots and homeless people are sleeping in some of the cars. There are muggings galore and nothing is done when it snows this side of I-75 and John R.
- It might be a good idea for the Mayor to have the trains go through the City at 45 miles per hour like Coleman Young did.
- I was born in Detroit, and basically have lived here all of my life. I live in Southwest Detroit. I have several vacant lots on each side of me and I have recently bought one lot that I kept up for years. Now, I'm maintaining another lot that the City owns, which I keep cut and trimmed. There is an abandoned house on my left and it is an eyesore. My neighborhood is well kept but the abandoned house is causing problems. The abandoned house was used for drugs and now it's in terrible condition.
- The City needs to go around to the homes of property owners and fine them if their house is not up to code. It needs to ticket or remove abandoned cars left on the streets. Also, there are a lot of stray dogs running around the neighborhood. The sanitation workers leave trash behind after their pickup. This City is in a mess.
- There was nothing on the survey pertaining to the Neighborhood City Hall on South Schaefer.
- I am disappointed in the City Council meetings. First, how few feel it is important enough to attend, and second how confused and uninformed they appear. They seem to read notes or information as if they have not even heard of the subject to be discussed.
- What needs to be done in this City is to tear down vacant houses and buildings. Also, we need a downtown with some nightlife to attend. The only way we are going to get these things is through a young mayor with ideals.

- Enforce the laws pertaining to people keeping up their property. I saw on the news, where the City of Dearborn was forcing an elderly woman to either fix up or surrender her home. We have elderly white neighbors in our neighborhood who I believe deliberately make their property look as undesirable as possible. If a black person lived in their neighborhood, and didn't keep their property up to the standards of the neighborhood, they would receive all kinds of notices, etc. It's not fair to those of us who try to keep it nice.
- I think, people that use things to get high, and become dependent on them should be treated, instead of being put in jail. They need help rather than punishment. Seniors need more help and understanding and their own senior building.
- The City takes too long to put vacant lots up for sale, based on the new law on foreclosure.
- Air pollution in the City is dangerous and unpleasant. Truck traffic to Canada causes gridlock. Another route to and from Canada needs to be found/constructed.
- To live in the USA is a blessing! We must count our blessings, there is always someone worse off.
- For the cost of the paper and questions, you could have funded a Neighborhood Youth Corps summer jobs program instead of this survey. All these 46 years, it's always been the same, no toilet paper in the public restrooms, or if there is, only single-layer paper. However, we're going to have a brand new youthful Mayor next year.
- The people running Detroit are lining their pockets. They're for the criminals and they don't care about the City. They just worry about their paychecks and raises. Thanks to the bureaucrats, that's why Detroit does so poorly.
- Thank for making a difference in all of the needed places.
- Thanks for caring enough to ask.
- My feeling on police is that they are rude when they are talking to citizens in any kind of way. If they come into your home they may walk through it, and call you a liar. In the winter, they refuse to wipe their feet when entering. If in a police car, they are very rude and will tell you to shut up. I called the police because there is a drug house on my street, and young males refuse to move when you are driving down the street. In the summer, kids from other neighborhoods turned the water on and left it on. I called the Fire Department but they never responded. City workers, such as police, City hall, and others provide poor services. Also, I receive mail between 4 and 7 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays and from 2 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, which is very poor service.
- Since I was nine years old, I've lived in this City. Until Coleman Young came into office it consisted of neighborhoods filled with businesses within walking distance of my home. They no longer exist. Our parks and recreation centers were there for our children. Now, there are no PAL leagues, recreation centers, or playgrounds for them. No wonder our youth are troubled, everything now seems geared for the enjoyment of the adults.

- I used to live on Racine where the water flooded the street like a swimming pool when it rained hard. My kids go to Wilkins Elementary, and if a snowstorm comes and the City does not plow the street, the kids have to miss school. If it wasn't for the principal, Mr. Andrews, all of those abandoned houses probably would be standing. He did a lot to get them torn down, so it could be safe for the kids.
- We the citizens of Detroit deserve to have clean streets, parks, and recreational facilities. I would be one of the first to volunteer to help clean our parks, but I have to ask, "What are my taxes being used for?" In past elections, I have voted for increases in millages for various City departments, but I honestly don't see a change. Where is the accountability? This is my City and I want to be proud of the City I live in. I pray that the elected officials of the City of Detroit will do what's right for the City and for the constituents who elected them. Thank you.
- Tear down each abandoned house within a year after it has been vandalized. I live on the eastside. The area of Gratiot and McQuarry Streets looks worse than a war-torn nation.
- I've lived in the City for twenty-five years, and watched it go from good to bad to okay. There is a home next door that should be demolished. It devalues my property and other properties on the block. Please tear it down.
- I would like to be a volunteer for Halloween watch this year.
- With the drug traffic, bad youths (i.e., rotten eggs/stones, etc.), and vandalism, the City needs a curfew or something. Noisy vehicles shake the ground. We need a ban on fireworks. There is junk on the streets and in the back yards, including stolen cars and trucks. The alleys need cleaning and removal of weeds, junk, etc. Homes here were kept beautiful years ago, before disaster came in. Also, there is speeding during the day and night. Since, the community changed over the past ten to twenty years, it has been awful. I'm planning to leave soon.
- City employees communicate in very negative language to the public. They don't have any kind words when helping people. They do not recognize the fact that the people they are helping are the people who pay taxes and are contributing to their paychecks. My neighborhood police have not solved my residential community problem yet. They have not come out to investigate my problem after three years of complaints. The traffic on my street is terrible. Cars speed and race on my street everyday. I have seen police cruisers just ignore them.
- I feel that with the money taken from people cut off of aid from the Family Independent Agency and the money collected from the lottery, the government should help the mothers and fathers who are taking care of their children (to the best of their ability) with getting a house and a car. I'm not talking about section 8 or low income housing because that takes years to get on. I've been trying for fourteen years to get low income or section 8 and my name always seems to get lost in the mail, or at the office of the low income or section 8 housing. They need to be better staffed. Yours truly, a single mother with four kids.

- First, I would like to thank you for selecting me to participate in this survey. I feel strongly that we as citizens should have a chance to purchase vacant lots for development purposes before churches and business people do. I took care of a vacant lot for 10 years, and was unable to buy it due to a church that has bought the whole block. I was never notified. We also should be able to build modular homes in our neighborhoods and not have to move to suburbs, such as Belleville, to have a nice home.
- I think it was a good idea to survey the citizenry. However, the survey itself is a bit general. If I'm spending 20 minutes to answer, perhaps I could answer in a little more detail. For example: The how safe do I feel in different situations needed clarification. I for one know I need to be on the alert wherever I go. I would, for the most part, never walk in any neighborhood in the City after dark. Also, the only time I go to my neighborhood recreation facility is to vote. The building looks quite cruddy (O'Shea). Other neighborhood facilities are better. Further, City street quality ranges from good (an effort has been made to repair them) to horrible. Bulk clean up or general trash removal depends on the area. I was appalled at the debris on Idaho by John C. Lodge by a junkyard. So you see, a lot depends on what or where you speak of. Hopefully, the City is making an effort to make services more uniform. Thanks for asking.
- I feel our neighborhoods have been forgotten. It's always about downtown, downtown, and downtown. We need local representation on City Council. I call all the time to Council members, and seldom get a call back. I bet it would be real different and I would get some response, if I had a local representative on the Council.
- I'm willing to volunteer to maintain our City parks and vacant lots but I know for a fact that the City pays workers to do these jobs. The more volunteers you have the less the paid workers have to do; and these people are paid well to do their jobs. We, or someone, needs to make sure they do their jobs. My family and I are afraid to go to Belle Isle because of the behavior of the youth or those in their early 20's that go there. They block the streets and moon passersby. They don't allow the older adults to enjoy the Isle anymore. Belle Isle needs to be patrolled better and more strictly. All age groups should be allowed to enjoy Belle Isle again.
- Most of what I marked is what I see or don't know, but I really love my City.
- We are glad to be in Southwest Detroit. It is a friendly vibrant place to live, but it also badly neglected by the City of Detroit. If the City wants to attract and keep citizens who will positively impact our City, we must have good housing, safe and clean neighborhoods, and well-maintained, vibrant local shopping areas. We've been back in the City for four years and love the people here but the trash and pollution are discouraging. I literally called for two years before the City razed a vacant house behind me and cleaned trash from a lot. Expect more from our citizens. Why should people be allowed to put trash out in piles three weeks before pickup.
- In general, Detroit (I live downtown) is in pretty good condition. However, responses to repair needs takes weeks. Police and Fire responses are excellent in emergencies. The police mini station in the 7th precinct is good. It is impossible for the City to keep up with sloppy citizens. Why can't a citizen sweep their sidewalk or shovel the snow from it. Detroit needs to educate it' population on what it takes to make a good citizen.

- I believe in the ability of this City to become viable to all of its citizens. However, the professionalism within City services is very bad and the ability to receive accurate information suffers. A professional, aggressive, and devoted City Council (as a whole) is needed. Good town hall meetings would be of substantial worth to help understand the concerns of all citizens. The ability to hold them on a regular basis (at least three or four a year) and on the weekends would result in the involvement of more residents. Thanks for listening.
- We are paying high taxes in this State and not receiving what we pay for. There are too many deadbeats working in the City of Detroit. I blame the unions. The City should outsource City services. If employees don't produce, get rid of them. This includes teachers – overpaid for what they do and not accountable to anyone. This includes all City employees. I have a tree in front of my house and every storm branches break off. For five years I've called the City but they tell me it will take another five to ten years to do the job. They just don't care. The City should hire outside help to do the job. City help stinks and is not accountable.
- Next time, please indicate streets on the City hall region map with the survey. It was difficult to determine one's district. I favor a fee to enter Belle Isle. It is our jewel but it is decaying from lack of funds for upkeep. I live in the Boston-Edison Historic District. I have lived here for 36 years. We need streetlight improvements, alley cleanup or closure, and more police protection. We spend, as individuals, hundreds of dollars for maintenance and watering of the islands on the boulevard. Sprinkling systems are needed for the flowers on the islands on the boulevards. We also need trees.
- Detroit needs citizens with better work ethics, citizens with more pride in the City and themselves, and citizens who are willing to pay out of their pockets for better service to their neighborhoods and better maintenance of Belle Isle. Yes, I support an entrance fee to help keep Belle Isle clean. Senior citizens need to stop begging and contribute to City services like you do to casinos.
- I love Detroit.
- The City should pay attention to cutting limbs around power lines in alleys, and make business owners responsible for maintaining the alleys behind their businesses.
- Blighted areas of the City need to be developed. Employment opportunities need to be provided to the youth of the City. Finally, the neighborhoods need to be addressed.
- I am not pleased with this City. Our Mayor's only concern is with downtown, and the Ford and Illitch families.
- Detroit citizens need to cleanup some areas like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. The City looks and is filthy. People need pride, let's start with cleaning up. There should be a fine for those who would dirty the City. Local television should get out that message. Policemen need to be more visible in neighborhoods, people do not feel safe for this reason. No one is watching.

- After calls to the City, I had to call channel 7 to get a streetlight repaired. Our street, Asbury Park between west Warren and Paul Street has been marked for repavement. However, only minor patch work has been completed. I want to know when the resurfacing will be done. Every time it rains, we have flooding at Asbury Park and Whitlock Streets. The street needs to be raised and better drainage needs to be put in. I have contacted channel 2 because I can't seem to get any answers when I call the City.
- I love living in the City of Detroit, but it does have a lot of problems and needs many improvements.
- This is a beautiful country. I was born in the City and it gave me a beautiful living. I have no complaints about anything. I've lived in this same house for 47 years and have enjoyed it up until the last few years. My street is so bad with these drug sellers, I can't get through my street with my car. Our taxes go up and there's no help for us seniors. It's sad. These young people need to go to work like we did. I'm a widow.
- I agree with the City's efforts to increase the tax base. I feel the lack of funds makes it hard for the City to provide the much needed services to maintain a good quality of life in the City. In addition, much more needs to be done on issues such as home repairs and programs aimed at attracting small business and services to neighborhoods. Residents need a place to shop and money to fix up their homes, especially in areas where fill-in development is taking place.
- I think that we need better streetlights, more police protection, better and safer parks, more programs for kids, more gyms, cleaner water to fish in, a good warm place for people in the parks, and a Burger King restaurant at Seven Mile and Woodward. Thank you, hope I was somewhat helpful.
- We live in southwest Detroit across the bridge in a forgotten part of the City. Electric Street is the worst street in the City. Will they pave it – no. We pay our taxes as they come due. I don't vote anymore, I have nothing to vote for.
- I believe City property and income taxes are too high.
- I'm sorry I messed up my zip code number. I gave you the best answer I had. I don't visit parks now and I am not out at nights.
- The City needs to hire more people. The Fire, Police, and EMS Departments are very understaffed. That's why response time is very poor, not to mention the outdated equipment they have. Mayor Archer (Good Riddance) has just announced that the City of Detroit will not give its employees a new contract or a raise in pay. Something is wrong here. The neighborhoods have been neglected for decades. The downtown area is the only place that seems to be benefiting. The City of Detroit has plenty of money. It can take care of those problems and more. The money just doesn't make it there. We will be moving out in the next few years, mainly due to the school system, but that's another matter. Thank you.
- At first, I was reluctant to fill this survey out, but I decide to because I really hope you take this and other surveys very seriously. I was born in Detroit and have lived here ever since. I would like to stay here but I'm seriously thinking of leaving Detroit. Maybe more people would vote, if you people would do more for this City than collect your fat paychecks.

- A lot of people including myself, did not know that street cleaning just recently started in the neighborhoods. Public Lighting is bad and so is the Water and Sewerage Department. The City is still not doing enough to stop or slow down the drug situation in our neighborhoods. The crime, police, and the streetlights need a great deal of improvement .
- I regret that this is an anonymous survey. I would like to respond orally. I think more could be done for Detroit.
- Expansion of the Internal Audit function would benefit the City.
- More information should be given to the public on City services. Police officers are hired too young and don't know how to deal with citizens. The police won't come to your aid unless it is life threatening.
- Keep up the good work. Some improvements are needed, but overall the City does a good job.
- I am not able to walk and that is why I had no answers to most questions.
- Common council and mayoral candidates are out shaking hands at election time. Afterward, the winners climb into their ivory towers, remaining there until the next election. Sell their cars and require them to ride buses. Take them to Belle Isle to use the facilities, if they can stand the odor. Have them walk the streets at night to see how inefficient the lighting is. If they want to find out what problems a department is having, let them talk to the workers rather than the supervisors who only paint them a rosy picture.
- While I am prepared to volunteer my services while living in Detroit, I think this is only a small part of the City's problems. Mismanagement of funds, workers who are not properly supervised, and better training of City employees are my concerns. The availability of resources in neighborhoods is not advertised. Lack of professionalism is a big problem. People are not happy with their jobs or they just aren't concerned about doing their best.
- I will not make comments at this time because the envelope is not sealed. But I will say , it seems in order to get help in Detroit you have to go to the news media or you get no help.
- City services have improved during this (Archer) administration. Prior to the present administration all questions would have been answered as "bad" or "very bad".
- Truthfully and honesty, I sincerely wish I could have positive comments, but I am embarrassed among family and friends that know I live in Detroit. The public schools are of poor quality (thankfully, I have no children). Police response, if any, is extremely slow. The streets are very unsafe and ripped with blight and crime. During winter months, snow removal is pathetic. Currently, I am bound by contract to live within the City limits, but as soon as my contract changes, my address will change immediately.
- With the exception of two things, the six years I have lived in the City have been fairly good. The two bad things were the theft of my car out of my driveway and the response time of the Fire Department to sparking power lines during a heat wave.

- Some survey questions, such as 2 and 5 seem to be questions on entrapment. One seems to evoke a certain response. Number 2 does not allow a proper response to justify the response to number 5. It seems like an attempt to weaken the possible negative response to number 2.
- I really like this City and feel we have much to be thankful for, although I've experienced some very negative episodes with the Police Department. I was a City employee for 10 years and saw how nepotism can be a deterrent. I sincerely believe we have a great City and it won't take much to make it magnificent.
- I hear that nearly everyone who works at the water station on the eastside drinks and sits in their trucks and watches television. How can this situation be taken care of? Even the bosses drink and don't care what goes on. This should be taken care of, since we pay taxes for their wages.
- I love Eastern Market but I wish it was promoted more. It should have boutiques and shops, and it should be maintained better. Apartment rentals and lofts in the area would be great. It's the diamond in the rough and just needs some young imagination to bring it to the life it deserves. The craft shows are nice but not advertised. Only flower day gets television coverage.
- We have been trying to get a stop sign on westbound Robinwood at Orleans for the last five years and can't seem to get it installed. The speed going south on Orleans is very high after 3:00 p.m. We the members of the block club have been trying to get help here and can't. We also would like our trees sprayed, because of bird droppings. We enjoy the trees but the birds nest there every evening after 7:00 p.m. The noise is unbearable and flies are everywhere. We have called for trees to be sprayed but the Recreation Department won't spray them. Thank you.
- As far as my being able to volunteer, right now it is highly unlikely because of my physical incapacities. I have difficulty moving about because of arthritis and a pinched nerve.
- The following lists some of the City's problems: 1. Conditions of streets are deplorable. 2. The infrastructure is obsolete. 3. There are no shopping districts. 4. There is a lack of representation. 5. Residents are over taxed. 6. The City needs more streetlights. 7. There are too many abandoned homes. 8. Too many fire hydrants don't work. 9. Much of the fire equipment is old. 10. The parks are full of dope. 11. Buses don't run on time and are dirty. 12. There are no covered bus shelters. 13. Although the E.M.S. is well trained, there are too few. 14. The Fire Department is well trained, but there are too few. 15. The Police Department is wasted. 16. City information is too hard to access.
- Some things to improve the quality of life for Detroit residents would be: 1. Insist that owners of vacant buildings keep their properties clean of weeds, posters, trash, etc., especially the buildings on main streets such as west Seven Mile Road. The owners of these vacant properties should be ticketed, if the property is not kept up. 2. Gas station owners should be ticketed, if their property is not clean. 3. Ticket homeowners for trash and weeds around their property. 4. Why doesn't the DPW issue tickets for trash cans left on the street well after trash pickup? 5. Trees in residential neighborhoods need trimming. 6. Sidewalks and curbs need repairing in the neighborhoods. 7. Enforce the ordinance for illegal posters on traffic signs and light posts. 8. Clean our neighborhood playgrounds so that the neighborhood children can play basketball and other games there, instead of in the streets. 9. Make department heads accountable for their jobs or fine them. Thank you.